

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An interventional tool for repairing a cardiac valve of a patient having leaflets, said tool comprising:

a ~~capture device~~ catheter having a shaft, a proximal portion and a distal portion adapted for placement through vasculature of the patient to a location near the cardiac ~~valve~~, valve; and

~~the a capture device~~ detachably connected to the catheter having comprising at least one ~~deployable~~ distal element wherein the at least one distal element has a first position disposed adjacent to the shaft and a second position deployed in an outward direction from the shaft, and at least one deployable proximal element disposed proximal to the at least one distal element, wherein the at least one proximal element has a first position adjacent to the shaft and a second position deployed in an outward direction from the shaft and wherein the at least one distal element and at least one proximal element are adapted to capture the valve leaflets, leaflets between the elements,

~~wherein the at least one distal element is deployable and retractable independently of the at least one proximal element in an outward direction from the shaft.~~

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A device as in ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the at least one distal element has a length extending from the shaft to a tip of the at least one distal element, wherein the length is adjustable by deployment of the at least one distal element.

4. (original) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one distal element is deployable by angular movement of the at least one distal element so that the at least one distal element forms an angle with the shaft.

5. (original) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one proximal element is deployable by angular movement of the at least one proximal element so that the at least one proximal element forms an angle with the shaft.
6. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one proximal element and the at least one distal element are adapted to atraumatically capture the valve leaflets.
7. (original) A device as in claim 6, wherein the at least one distal element and/or the at least one proximal element further include a frictional accessory.
8. (original) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one proximal element and/or the at least one distal element is adapted to be adjusted angularly after capturing the valve leaflets to adjust the position of the leaflets.
9. (original) A device as in claim 1, wherein the distal portion comprises two distal elements disposed on opposite sides of the shaft.
10. (original) A device as in claim 9, wherein the two distal elements are simultaneously deployable.
11. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one proximal element comprises two proximal elements disposed on opposite sides of the shaft.
12. (original) A device as in claim 11, wherein the two proximal elements are simultaneously deployable.
13. (original) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one proximal element and/or the at least one distal element has a loop shape when deployed.
14. (original) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one proximal element and/or the at least one distal element is comprised of stainless steel, metals, nitinol, shape-memory alloy, polymer, silk, polyester, nylon or a combination of these.

15. (original) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one distal element and the at least one proximal element are adapted to fixedly hold the leaflets as captured.

16. (cancelled)

17. (original) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least one proximal element is configured to be disposed within the edges of the corresponding at least one distal element when both the at least one proximal element and corresponding at least one distal element are in a deployed position.

18. (currently amended) A method of repairing a cardiac valve of a patient having leaflets, said method comprising:

providing an interventional tool including a catheter having a shaft, a proximal portion, a distal portion and a capture device detachably connected to the catheter, the capture device having at least one distal element and at least one proximal element;

~~a capture device having a shaft, a proximal portion and a distal portion adapted for placement through vasculature of the patient to a location near the cardiac valve, the capture device comprising at least one deployable distal element and at least one deployable proximal element adapted to capture the valve leaflets between the elements;~~

~~wherein the at least one distal element is deployable and retractable independently of the at least one proximal element in an outward direction from the shaft;~~

advancing the distal portion through the vasculature to the location near the cardiac valve; and

deploying the at least one distal element and the at least one proximal element independently of each other so that the valve leaflets are captured ~~therebetween;~~ therebetween;
and

detaching the capture device from the interventional tool.

19. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, wherein the deploying step comprises advancing the at least one distal element or the at least one proximal element outwardly from the shaft.

20. (original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the at least one distal element has a length extending from the shaft to a tip of the at least one distal element, and wherein deployment of the at least one distal element adjusts the length.

21. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, wherein the deploying step comprises angularly moving the at least one distal element and/or the at least one proximal ~~element~~is element so that the at least one distal element and/or the at least one proximal element forms an angle with the shaft.

22. (original) A method as in claim 18, further comprising angularly adjusting the at least one proximal element and/or the at least one distal element after capturing the valve leaflets to adjust the position of the leaflets.

23. (original) A method as in claim 18, wherein deploying the at least one distal element comprises deploying two distal elements wherein each distal element is disposed on opposite sides of the shaft.

24. (original) A method as in claim 23, wherein deploying the two distal elements comprises simultaneously deploying the two distal elements.

25. (original) A method as in claim 18, wherein deploying the at least one proximal element comprises deploying two proximal elements wherein each proximal element is disposed on opposite sides of the shaft.

26. (original) A method as in claim 25, wherein deploying the two proximal elements comprises simultaneously deploying the two proximal elements.

27. (original) A method as in claim 18, further comprising retracting the at least one distal element and/or the at least one proximal element.

28. (original) A method as in claim 27, further comprising repositioning the capture device in relation to the leaflets and redeploying the at least one distal element and the at least one proximal element so that the valve leaflets are captured therebetween.

29. (original) A method as in claim 18, further comprising evaluating the cardiac valve for regurgitation while the leaflets are captured.

30. (original) A method as in claim 18, further comprising fixing the captured leaflets in place.

31. (cancelled)